

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Hayzlett at 1:30 P.M. on February 5, 2008 in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Margaret Long- excused
Representative Ronnie Metzker- excused
Representative Tom Sloan- excused

Committee staff present:

Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research
Bruce Kinzie, Revisor of Statutes Office
Mike Corrigan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Betty Boaz, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Ed Trimmer
Marcy Ralston, Dept. Of Revenue

Others attending:

See attached list

Chairman Hayzlett called the meeting to order. He asked if there were any requests for bill introductions. The Chairman acknowledged Duane Simpson, representing Kansas Grain and Feed Association and Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association. Mr. Simpson requested a bill be introduced that would expand the Kansas Railroads Leasing Act to include track leases of class III railroads. A motion was made by Representative Burgess to accept this bill, seconded by Representative Treaster and the motion carried.

There were no other bill introductions. The Chairman opened the hearings.

HB 2659 - Designating a portion of U.S. 400 highway as the atomic veterans' memorial highway

The Chairman recognized Representative Ed Trimmer as the first proponent. (Attachment #1) According to Representative Trimmer, who was also speaking for Representative David Crum, there are approximately 23,000 veterans surviving out of 225,000 personnel who were in an above ground nuclear testing program that began in 1945 and ended in 1963. It was not until 1988 did the government acknowledge that these persons had been constantly exposed to Alfa, Beta, and Gamma radiation. These individuals were sworn to secrecy until 1996. Because of the classified nature of the tests, these individuals were not given any form of recognition for the dangers they encountered, nor could they seek any recognition. He concluded by saying that **HB 2659** would help recognize the sacrifices of our atomic veterans by naming Kansas Highway 400 from the US 77/54 intersection, east of Augusta, to the eastern boundary of Butler County be designated Atomic Veterans Highway.

There being no other proponents or opponents Chairman Hayzlett closed the hearing on **HB 2659**.

HB 2665 - Driver's licenses, destruction of surrendered licenses.

Chairman Hayzlett recognized Marcy Ralston, Chief, Driver Control Bureau, Division of Vehicles. (Attachment #2) According to Ms. Ralston, **HB 2665** would allow the Driver Control Bureau to stop retaining seized or surrendered driver's licenses. Ms. Ralston said they receive about sixty driver's licenses daily but only return or destroy half that amount so the volume keeps increasing. She said they have determined that 50% to 60% of the licenses returned are to persons who are required to retest or whose license has expired and they must obtain a new license anyway. Ms. Ralston also addressed Chairman Hayzlett's question about which other states destroy the licenses.

The Chairman recognized Carmen Alldritt, Director, Motor Vehicle Div., who spoke in support of **HB 2665**. Director Alldritt said there are individuals who get stopped and don't have a driver's license with them for whatever reason, but when the officer looks their information up in his computer, that's where the real record is located. There were no questions of Director Alldritt and no opponents to this bill so the Chairman closed

CONTINUATION SHEET

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the hearing on **HB 2665**.

The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to the Minutes of the January 28, 2008 and January 30, 2008 meetings. It was noted the time of the January 28 Minutes was incorrect. Representative Vickrey made a motion to approve the Minutes, as amended. The motion was seconded by Representative McLachlan and the motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Peck reported to the Committee that the Sub-committee was still studying **SB 294**.

There was a short discussion on the reasons for having a driver's license.

There being no further business before the Committee, Chairman Hayzlett adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 519-S.